

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 ICA-11 AID-05 EB-08 AF-10 ARA-10  
EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01  
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R 270902Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6837  
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBSSY ROME  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FODAG

E. O. 11652: N/A  
TQGS: FAO, OCON  
SUBJ: FAO:REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR FAR EAST AND ASIA

1. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF SUBJECT CONFERENCE HAS BEEN RELATIVELY UNEVENTFUL. TC/DC AND WCARRD HAVE BEEN PRINCIPAL ITEMS EVOKING DISCUSSION BUT NO SIGNIFICANT TRENDS APPEAR TO BE MERGING. ON LATTER, FAO ASST. DIR. GEN. ISLAM DELIVERED INTERESTING DEFINITION OF COMPONENTS OF POLITICAL WILL AND ITS FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE TO UNDERTAKING LAND REFORMS WHERE NEEDED, AND ORGANIZING RURAL POOR. OTHERWISE, DEBATE PRODUCED MORE SEL-JUSTIFYING STATEMENTS THAN THOUGHTFUL INPUTS INTO WCARRD PLANNING OR INDICATIVE COMMENTS ON SECRETARIAT PAPER.

2. ISSUES HAVEING BUDEGTARY SINGIFICANCE HAVE NOT EMERGED. THERE IS NOTABLE ABSENCE OF ANY REFERENCE TO COFI DISCUSSION OF STRENGTHENING REGIONAL  
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FISHERIES ORGANIZATION. LIVELY, SMALL-FARMER ORIENTED HEAD OF FAO'S BANGKOK REGIONAL OFFICE, STATES HE IS SEEKING ENLARGEMENT OF HIS OFFICE BY TWO PROVESSIONALS, BUT NOT IN FISHERIES AREA. FAO SOURCES STRESS, HOWEVER, THAT DG STRONGLY COMMITTED TO AVOIDING OVERALL FAO PERSONNEL INCREASE IN NEXT BIENNIUM AND THAT ANY NEW ASSIGN-

MENTS IN REGIONAL OFFICE WILL BE COUNTERBALANCED BY TERMINATION OF ASSIGNMENT OF ANY UNDERUTILIZED EXPERTS OR BY CUTS AT HEADQUARTERS.

3. WITH REGARD TO CIRKDAP, WHILE ONLY EIGHT COUNTRIES PREPARED TO SIGN UP SO FAR, SIX WILL BE SUFFICIENT FOR THE LAUNCH, IF APPARENT DIFFERENCES ON LANGUAGE CAN BE WORKED OUT BY JULY 28. JAPANESE DO NOT HAVE PLENIPOTENTIARY POWERS FOR LAUNCHING OF AGREEMENT BUT FAO AND BANGLADESH ARE CONFIDENT THEY WILL PROVIDE NECESSARY FUNDING EITHER TO BANGLADESH OR THRU AN FAO TRUST FUND. USDEL MADE BRIEF STATEMENT EXPRESSING OUR INTEREST IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUED EXPLORATION OF POSSIBILITIES AND LIMITATIONS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT CENTERS ADDING THAT WE WOULD FOLLOW EVOLUTION OF CIRKDAP WITH INTEREST AND ATTENTION WHILE UNPREPARED TO JOIN OR HELP FINANCE AT THIS TIME.

4. NEXT WEEK'S PLENARY MEETING, IT APPEARS, WILL NOT PRODUCE SIGNIFICANT DEBATE. FOLLOWING DG'S STATEMENT, DELEGATIONS EXPECTED TO FOLLOW WITH COUNTRY STATEMENTS AND HEAR STATEMENTS FROM ESCAP, WFP AND REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE UMALI BEFORE CONSIDERING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT.

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5. USDEL HAS NOT BEEN PROVIDED WITH GUIDANCE ON OR OUTLINE OF A COUNTRY STATEMENT OTHER THAN FIRST THREE NUMBERED POINTS ON BRIEFING PAPER ON US PARTICIPATION. USDEL, HOWEVER, BELIEVES THAT, IN VIEW OF THAT GUIDANCE, IT WOULD-BE UNWISE TO MAKE NO STATEMENT AT ALL.

6. IN VIEW OF USDEL, US STATEMENT SHOULD BE BRIEF AND TOWARD END OF DEBATE AND SHOULD INCLUDE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS: 1) SUPPORT OF DIRECTION OF REGIONAL PROGRAM OUTLINED AT 1976 FERC, 2) SUPPORT OF INCREASED EMPHASIS ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT. ESPECIALLY PROJECTS ENCOURAGING ORGANIZATION OF RURAL POOR OF VILLAGE LEVEL; 3) UTILIZATION, IN SUPPORT OF SMALL FARMER ORIENTATION OF FAO WORK, OF RELEVANT PASSAGES OF AMB. YOUNG'S MARCH STATEMENT TO ESCAP WHICH WE ALSO PLAN TO MAKE AVAILABLE HERE; 4) EMPHASIS ON BUDGETARY RESTRAINT (IF OTHER STATEMENTS APPEAR TO URGE INCREASED EXPENDITURE). USDEL BELIEVES IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE IF WE COULD INCLUDE VIEWS ON : 1) INCREASING RICE PRODUCTION, PRIMARILY THROUGH IMPROVED AND INTENSIFIED USE

OF LAND NOW UNDER RICE CULTIVATION (AN EMPHASIS  
WE EXPECT FROM DG STATEMENT); 2) RELEVANT STATEMENTS  
ON MAIN LINES OF EMPHASIS OF APPROACH OF OUR  
BILATERAL AID PROGRAMS AND OUR PARTICIPATION IN  
IBRD AND ADB WITH REGARD TO IMPROVED FOOD PRODUCTION  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THIS AREA; 3) RELEVANT  
REFERENCE TO AGRICULTURAL FORESTRY AND FISHERIES  
IN DEVELOPMENT IN PACIFIC TERRITORIES UNDER  
OUR JURISDICTION OR TRUST, IF APPROPRIATE;  
4) ANY REFERENCES TO CURRENT CONSULTATIONS WITH  
ASEAN STATES OR OTHER STATES IN REGION WHICH MAY  
BE CONSIDERED; 5) WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS OR  
SUGGESTIONS FROM DEPT AND INFO ADDRESSES ON ABOVE  
POINTS.

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MILLER

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## Message Attributes

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